



Julie Wiley

# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Julie Wiley

SCHOOL: Prospect Point Elementary

Grade Level: First Grade

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 4 years

Q. Why did you develop a Reader's Theatre program?

A. My students just finished reading a book called the "Puddle." I adapted it into a Reader's Theatre. A Reader's Theatre is a dramatic story telling activity that brings the story alive.

Q. How does it bring the story alive?

A. It's a hands on activity that helps my students make deep connections with the characters in the story. It also increases their oral language fluency and helps them build their self confidence as readers.

Q. What other skills do they gain by doing this activity?

A. They design and create props for the production. They learn to work together. It takes courage to get up in front of a group of your peers and perform. I think it's important for them to get comfortable doing this at a young age.

Q. What is the format of your reading block?

A. Our two hour reading block is comprised of four rotations. Students rotate through reading groups, some do independent center activities, other students work on their handwriting skills, while some read independently. All the students are doing a variety of activities at their level.

## COMMENTS FROM PROSPECT POINT PRINCIPAL CHRIS GARDEA:

"Julie has an amazing way of drawing the best out of each of her first grade students. Her positive, upbeat personality allows her to build lasting relationships with her students, and makes learning fun. She is always ready to have a young student tell her about his or her weekend or the new discovery they just learned."

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM  
JULIE WILEY'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM JULIE...

We hit the ground running every morning. It's non-stop once the doors open. I have to make sure my ducks are in a row when my kids come in because there is no down time.

This is a great group of kids. They keep me on my toes. They are very active and love learning. It's really fun and I'm enjoying it.



We will be performing our Reader's Theatre in front of the entire first grade pod. We are also inviting Principal Chris Gardea and Dean of Students Diana Evenson to join us.